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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)		Application Number	10/748450-Conf. #2366
		Filing Date	December 30, 2003
		First Named Inventor	Richard BOYD
		Art Unit	1644
		Examiner Name	M. A. Belyavskiy
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	3	Attorney Docket Number	286336.150US1/NOR-011CP2

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Return Receipt Postcard
<div>Remarks</div>		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
Firm Name	WILMER CUTLER PICKERING HALE AND DORR LLP		
Signature	<i>Ann-Louise Kerner</i>		
Printed name	Ann-Louise Kerner, Ph.D.		
Date	September 21, 2005	Reg. No.	33,523

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450, on the date shown below.	
Dated: September 21, 2005	Signature: <i>Rockelle Capobianco</i> (Rockelle Capobianco)



PATENTS

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Richard L. BOYD	Art Unit:	1644
Serial No.:	10/748,450	Examiner:	Michail A. Belyavskyi
Filing Date:	December 30, 2003	Confirmation No.	2366
Title:	Stimulation of Thymus for Vaccination Development	Attorney Docket No.	0286336.00150 US1 (NOR-011CP2)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)

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Rochelle Capobianco
September 21, 2005

Rochelle Capobianco

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Dear Sir:

Applicants hereby respond to the Restriction Requirement dated August 25, 2005, which detailed a seven-way restriction requirement.

Applicants respectfully traverse this restriction. Applicants submit that because the subject matter of Groups I-V is so closely related, search and examination of claims in Groups I-V could be performed together without serious burden, and would have to be performed together due to the overlap of their subject matter. Applicants believe that independent claim 15, which was not included in any of Groups I-VII of the Restriction Requirement, is part of each one of Groups I-V because all of the claims in Groups I-V depend from claim 15.

In particular, the claims of Groups I-V are drawn to methods for improving an immune response to a vaccine antigen in a patient. In addition, all claims in Groups I-V are related because they all depend from independent claim 15. Groups II-V are further related because they are directed to methods of improving an immune response to a vaccine antigen, wherein the thymus is reactivated by disruption of sex steroid-mediated signaling to the thymus. In addition, all claims in Groups II-V are related because they all depend from claim 30.

Applicants submit that because the subject matter of Groups I-V is so closely related, search and examination of claims in Groups I-V could be performed together without serious burden, and would have to be performed together due to the overlap of their subject matter. Accordingly, grouping and examination of at least Groups I-V is respectfully requested.

However, in the event that Groups I-V are not grouped together for purposes of search and examination, Applicants provisionally elect Group IV, claims 30-33, 35, 36, 39-42, 76 and claim 15, which is believed to be part of this group. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the subject matter of Groups I-III and V-VII, each Group believed to include claim 15, in this or any related patent application. Should claim 15 be found allowable, Applicants reserve the right to rejoin the remaining claims of Groups I-V, which all depend from claim 15, into this or any related patent application.

Further and favorable consideration of all the claims of record on the merits is respectfully requested. No fees are believed to be due in connection with this correspondence. However, please charge any payments due or credit any overpayments to our Deposit Account No. 08-0219.

Respectfully submitted,



Ann-Louise Kerner, Ph.D.

Reg. No. 33,523

Attorney/Agent for Applicant

Date: September 21, 2005

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